

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 USIA-12 PRS-01 PA-03 CIAE-00 INR-10

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EUR/SOV:RECOMBS

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R 112319Z JUL 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL, US, UR

SUBJ: WORKING CONDITIONS FOR AMERICAN PRESS IN MOSCOW

REF: STATE 15908; 29920; MOSCOW 1243; 2271

1. JAMES L. GREENFIELD, FOREIGN EDITOR, NEW YORK TIMES, HAS SENT DEPARTMENT COPY OF CABLE HE RECEIVED FROM TIMES MOSCOW CORRESPONDENT SHABAD OUTLINING RECENT PROBLEMS FACED BY AMERICAN NEWSMEN IN MOSCOW. TEXT OF CABLE DATED JULY 2 AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE:

DR. PHILIP HANDLER, PRESIDENT OF NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, GAVE PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY FOR SOVIET NEWSMEN, TO WHICH AMERICANS WERE NOT INVITED. FIRST THING I KNEW ABOUT IT WAS WHEN I READ TASS REPORT ON EVENT. AMERICAN EMBASSY PROFESSES NOT TO HAVE KNOWN ABOUT PRESS CONFERENCE WHEN

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QUESTIONED ABOUT THE PROCEDURE. IN RELATED MATTER, NASA

GROUP LED BY DAVID SCOTT AVOIDED CONTACTS WITH AMERICAN PRESS DURING RECENT NEGOTIATIONS OF 1975 JOINT SPACE MISSION, ALTHOUGH ITS ACTIVITIES WERE COVERED BY SOVIET NEWSMEN. WE CONTINUING TO RUN INTO THIS PROBLEM WITH OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT VISITORS, AND THE USUAL EXPLANATION IS THAT PRESS RELATIONS ARE BEING LEFT TO THE SOVIET HOSTS. AMERICAN CORPORATION EXECUTIVES OFTEN FOLLOW SIMILAR INFORMATION POLICY, LATEST

CASE BEING THE TEXAS GROUP THAT WAS HERE FOR NATURAL GAS TALKS. NOT SURE ANYTHING CAN BE DONE ABOUT THE PROBLEM, BUT THOUGHT I WOULD BRING IT TO YOUR ATTENTION IN LIGHT OF WIDESPREAD REPORTS OF IMPROVING SOVIET-AMERICAN RELATIONS.

UNQUOTE.

2. GREENFIELD'S LETTER ASKS DEPARTMENT'S ASSISTANCE IN DEALING WITH WHAT HE DESCRIBES AS QUOTE A MAJOR PROBLEM... THAT WORRIES US A GREAT DEAL UNQUOTE.

3. REQUEST EMBASSY'S VIEWS ON SHABAD'S POINTS, INCLUDING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REPLY TO GREENFIELD AND SUGGESTIONS ON MEANS OF IMPROVING ACCESS BY AMERICAN NEWSMEN TO US OFFICIAL VISITORS, BUSINESSMEN, ETC. DEPARTMENT HAD ASSUMED THAT THIS SITUATION HAD BEEN SOMEWHAT IMPROVED SINCE SIMILAR CONTROVERSY SURROUNDING VISIT OF CEQ DIRECTOR RUSSELL TRAIN AND, IN CASE OF NASA DELEGATIONS, ON BASIS OF PROCEDURES ESTABLISHED IN REFTELS. ROGERS

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 11 JUL 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
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**Review Date:** 26 SEP 2001  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Subject:** WORKING CONDITIONS FOR AMERICAN PRESS IN MOSCOW  
**TAGS:** SCUL, US, UR  
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